

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/656,276

Examiner

Jared J. Fureman

Applicant(s)

HSIAO, WEN-HSIANG

Art Unit

2876

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to the amendment filed on 5/20/2005.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-6.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 08 September 2003 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

DETAILED ACTION

Receipt is acknowledged of the amendment, on 5/20/2005, which has been entered in the file. Claims 1-6 are pending.

Allowable Subject Matter

1. Claims 1-6 have been allowed over the prior art of record.
2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: The prior art of record, taken alone or in combination, fails to teach or fairly suggest: a 7-in-1 card reader for a PCMCIA interface including a first connector module provided in a rear end of the cartridge having a plurality of insertion slots for memory cards of specifications including those of CF, MD, MMC, MS and SD, and a second connector module provided on said rear end of said cartridge having an insertion slot for memory cards of specifications including those of SM and XD; in combination with the other claimed limitations as set forth in the claims.

Applicant's argument that Le et al (US 6,738,259 B2) only teaches a single slot, even though it is dimensioned to accommodate various memory cards (see pages 12-13, of the amendment filed on 5/20/2005), has been fully considered and is persuasive.

Jones et al (US 6,438,638 B1) teaches a card reader (42) having a plurality of connectors (62, 64, 66 and 68, see figure 6 and column 8, lines 24-35). However, this appears to suggest a "connector module" for each of the connectors. Thus, Jones et al does not specifically teach or suggest a first connector module having a plurality of insertion slots for memory cards of specifications including those of CF, MD, MMC, MS

and SD, and a second connector module having an insertion slot for memory cards of specifications including those of SM and XD.

Thus, while Le et al, Jones et al and the other prior art of record teach card readers for memory cards of different specifications, the prior art of record fails to teach or suggest the specifically claimed structure of a card reader having the first and second connector modules, as recited in claim 1. Furthermore, without the benefit of applicant's teachings, there is no motivation for one of ordinary skill in the prior art at the time of the invention to combine or modify the prior art of record to provide a card reader having a first connector module (for example, connector 22, shown in figure 2) including insertion slots for memory card specifications of CF, MD, MMC, MS and SD and a second connector module (for example, connector 23, shown in figure 2) including an insertion slot for memory cards specifications of SM and XD, as set forth in claim 1. Also see applicants arguments filed 5/20/2005, pages 12-14.

Applicant's argument against the 35 U.S.C. 112 second paragraph rejection of claims 1-6 (see pages 11-12, of the amendment filed on 5/20/2005), has been fully considered and is persuasive.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

3. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Hung-Ju et al (US 6,402,558 B1), Postlewaite et al (US 6,015,092 A), Jones et al (US 6,438,638 B1), Camacho (EP 1 291 804 A1) and (DE 296 07 724 U1) all teach memory card readers compatible with a plurality of memory card specifications.

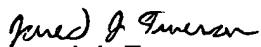
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jared J. Fureman whose telephone number is (571) 272-2391. The examiner can normally be reached on 7:00 am - 4:30 PM M-T, and every other Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Michael G. Lee can be reached on (571) 272-2398. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only.

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For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


Jared J. Fureman
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2876

July 19, 2005